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Item Subject: briefing memo to OADR

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DECL: OADR

TO: P - Mr. Tarnoff

FROM: EAP - Winston Lord

SUBJECT: Your Meeting with Chinese Vice Foreign Minister
Liu HuaiqiuThursday, November 4, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Your Office or Deputy Secretary's Conference Room??

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I. PURPOSE

Your three meetings with VFM Liu (Lee-YO) will lay the groundwork for President Clinton's and Secretary Christopher's Seattle meetings with their Chinese counterparts. The lunch following this meeting will focus on nonproliferation and regional themes. The Friday meeting will address the substantive progress we would like to see achieved in Seattle. The purposes of this first session, focussed on the overall bilateral relationship, are:

- o To reiterate the themes in the President's strategy of engagement with China and describe how we have begun to implement it.
- o To make clear the urgency of the need for Chinese progress in meeting the human rights conditions outlined in the President's MFN Executive Order.
- o Non-State Department participants:
 - Vice Foreign Minister Liu
 - Ambassador Li Daoyu
 - Ma Zhengang, North American/Oceanian Affairs Director
 - Minister Yang Jiechi, Deputy Chief of Mission
 - Liu Xiaoming, U.S. Division Director
 - Hu Dingxian, VFM Liu's Personal Assistant
 - Embassy PolCouns Wang Qiliang

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Embassy PolCouns Chen Jinghua
Embassy PolCouns Wu Zurong
Mr. Jiang Jiang (interpreter)

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II. KEY POINTS

o President's Strategy of Engagement

- President Clinton believes a strong, prosperous, stable China accords with U.S. national interests. The U.S. and China can move beyond current difficulties toward cooperative, respectful, and mutually beneficial ties.
- To this end, we initiated a policy of high-level engagement, which we are willing to extend to all matters of mutual concern. The Seattle meetings are crucial -- political leaders give impetus to relations.
- Through engagement, we hope to achieve concrete progress on bilateral disputes, especially in human rights, nonproliferation, and trade. Progress in each area is vitally important to improved relations.

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o Progress on Human Rights

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Monday 11/01/93 04:57 pm Page:

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o Next Steps in Engagement

- The essence of our recent initiative is to build trust and find common ground through engagement. We are pleased that China has responded positively.
- As a result, both sides agree on the need to reinvigorate the three joint commissions. We have proposed the next meeting of the Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade be held in March. We hope the other two commissions -- on Science and Technology and the Joint Economic Commission -- can meet in the first half of next year. We have talked to our relevant Cabinet members.
- We also are in agreement that parliamentary exchanges would be a good idea. We would like to see Chairman of the National People's Congress Qiao Shi invited to Washington by his American counterparts and will see if this can be arranged.
- We need progress in our various trade-related negotiations in order to avert the difficulties for our relations that would be caused by the U.S. having to impose sanctions.
- High-level engagement across the range of issues, along with the political will to make the necessary decisions, should allow us to establish good, constructive, cooperative relations.

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Attachments: Tab 1: Background Papers
Tab 2: Answers to PRC Non-Paper Points
Tab 3: Biographic Information

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Briefing Memo for U/S Tarnoff's 11/4 meeting with VFM Liu

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